75. Rs. 1,23,405 under A Civil Engineering "29. Communications—Maintenance"

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,23,405 under "29—A—Civil Engineering—Communication maintenance". The allotment for the maintenance of roads in the current year's budget is Rs. 2,31,777. Due to the high rates of tender that prevail at present, this allotment is found insufficient. I therefore move for this additional allotment.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I want a piece of information, Sir. It was promised on the floor of this House that the trunk road in Mattancheri would be put right soon. On account of the damage caused by Military lorries going along that road, the road is in a bad condition. Even this morning, I found it in a very bad state. I wonder whether the attention of the Department has been drawn to it and whether remedial measures will be taken up immediately.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The maintenance of that road is being taken up now.

Demand put and carried

76. Rs. 50,000 under "29—A—Civil Engineering—Irrigation—Original"

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 50,000 under "29—A—Civil Engineering—Irrigation Original". The scheme of storing water for the benefit of the kole lands was tried this year. The cost of storage arrangements made at Mullurkayal and Perimpilisseri areas came to Rs. 50,000 as per details which I am enumerating. An additional allotment of Rs. 50,000 is necessary under this head. The details are:

Bunding and pumping the areas at Mullurkayal and Perimpilisseri came to Rs. 24,884. Compensation to be paid to the owners of puncha and kole lands which were utilised for the storage at Mullurkayal came to Rs. 22,580. For similar lands utilised for storage at Perimpilisseri the expenditure came to a sum of Rs. 1,500. Thus, the total comes to about Rs. 50,000. I request the House may be pleased to grant this.

Cut Motion

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Sir, I beg to move that this allotment of Rs. 50,000 for cost of storage at Mullurkayal and Perimpilisseri areas be reduced by Rs. 44,965. I may bring to the notice of the Hon'ble House that I do not seek to include in the cut motion items 2 and 5 noted in the note to the Standing Finance Committee. The items are bunding at Perimpilisseri, estimated at Rs. 3,535 and compensation for lands included in the Perimpilisseri storage scheme Rs. 1,500. I may at once submit that I do not include them, not because there may not be complaints about them, but because I am personally not well-versed with the fact and to my knowledge and information as yet no complaints have been brought to the notice of the Government or of this House. My objections to the allotment of this amount, Sir, are; in the first place when an identical motion for an allotment of additional grant was moved by the Government before this Hon'ble House in the last Budget session, I had then brought to the notice of the Government, as well as of this Hon'ble House that there are any number of complaints about this scheme and that there are other remedial measures equally open which may entertain and engage the attention of the Hon'ble Government. I may bring to the notice of the Hon'ble House the discussion upon that matter reported on page 423 of Volume 11, Part X, of the authorised reports of the Budget Session. It was pointedly brought to the notice of the Government that this scheme can be avoided by the old existing system of raising the water level at the Enammavu Bund and I may be permitted to bring to the notice of this Hon'ble House the relevant portions of the reply that was given to the Hon'ble House by the Hon'ble Member for Engineering. I suggested, Sir, that it may be possible to ward of this fear of draught if that was adverted to and taken up. The answer that the Hon'ble Member for Engineering did give was—I shall read only the relevant portions—

"But if the water level in the kole lands is kept at the usual level then this storage may not be necessary. But the difficulty in getting pumps, bomboos and things like that will make it difficult for the ryots to cultivate their lands with increased pumping and bunding operations. This is a matter which is being considered by the Government and I cannot say a definite answer to this question".

Further on, the Hon'ble Member for Engineering was pleased to say in reply to questions: "Provided you keep the water level in Enamakkal about 1 foot 6 inches high. It may be fairly well said we can get through a crop safely even though there are no rains". And the difficulites that were pointed out in that matter were as stated

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly